

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the section under the heading CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS, which is located on page 1, lines 12-18, of the present application, with the following new section:

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This application generally relates to the teachings of ~~U.S. Patent Application No. 09/240,546~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,415,312, entitled "Reliable Multicast For Small Groups" filed on January 29, 1999, and of ~~U.S. Patent Application No. 09/240,549~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,502,140, entitled "Multicast Support For Small Groups", filed on January 29, 1999, and of ~~U.S. Patent Application No. 09/329,101~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,625,773, entitled "System For Multicast Communications In Packet Switched Networks" filed on June 9, 1999, which are all assigned to the same assignee as this application and the collective teachings of which are herein incorporated by reference.

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